

# Yukon Placer Database Operations Report



**Field Name:** Tatlow Placer Mines Ltd./Quartz Creek Placers,  
1991-2003

**Last Update:** 21-Mar-2005

**Status:** Active Producer

**Stream:** Quartz: a tributary of Indian

**Map Sheet(s):** 1150114

**Page:** 1 of 5

## Operators

| Name         | From (Date) | To (Date)  | Comment |
|--------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Gary Tatlow  | 2003/01/01  | 2003/12/31 |         |
| Kevin Tatlow | 2003/01/01  | 2003/12/31 |         |
| Joan Tatlow  | 2002/01/01  | 2002/12/31 |         |
| Ken Tatlow   | 1998/01/01  | 2002/12/31 |         |
| Gary Tatlow  | 1993/01/01  | 2001/12/31 |         |
| Kevin Tatlow | 1993/01/01  | 2001/12/31 |         |
| Ken Tatlow   | 1991/01/01  | 1992/12/31 |         |

## Owners

| Name                     | From (Date) | To (Date)  | Comment |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------|---------|
| Gary Tatlow              | 2003/01/01  | 2003/12/31 |         |
| Kevin Tatlow             | 2003/01/01  | 2003/12/31 |         |
| Joan Tatlow              | 2002/01/01  | 2002/12/31 |         |
| Ken Tatlow               | 1998/01/01  | 2002/12/31 |         |
| Gary Tatlow              | 1993/01/01  | 2001/12/31 |         |
| Kevin Tatlow             | 1993/01/01  | 2001/12/31 |         |
| Tatlow Placer Mines Ltd. | 1993/01/01  | 2003/12/31 |         |
| Ken Tatlow               | 1991/01/01  | 1992/12/31 |         |

## General Location

In 1991, the operation was located near the top end of Quartz Creek and on Mack Fork, an upstream, left limit tributary. From 1993, the property was located on upper Quartz Creek, above Mack Fork, in the middle of the valley bottom, and on the right limit bench of Quartz Creek, below its confluence with Little Blanche Creek. During 1998-2002, the Tatlows continued their family mine operation at the confluence of Little Blanche and Quartz Creeks.

## Location Details

| Date:      | Latitude<br>Deg : Min : Sec | Longitude<br>Deg : Min : Sec | Elevation<br>(feet) | Distance from Mouth<br>(feet) |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2003/01/01 | 63 49 6                     | 139 2 57                     |                     |                               |
| 1995/01/01 | 63 49 0                     | 139 4 0                      |                     |                               |
| 1993/01/01 | 63 49 0                     | 139 4 0                      |                     |                               |
| 1991/01/01 | 63 49 0                     | 139 4 0                      |                     |                               |

## Water Licence(s)

| Number   | Comments            |
|----------|---------------------|
| LP00163  |                     |
| PM99-135 |                     |
| PM91-024 |                     |
| PM95-070 | Expired: 2003/05/01 |

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**Water Licence(s)**

| Number   | Comments |
|----------|----------|
| PM92-075 |          |

### **Work History**

In 1991, approximately 50,000 loose yards were sluiced, and approximately 80,000 in 1992. Kevin and Gary Tatlow ran a 10-person operation with two camp workers the following year, and a six-person operation with one camp worker in 1994. Mining occurred in the narrow, steep sided canyon. In upper Quartz Creek, 150,000 square feet of bedrock were mined in 1993, and 350,000 square feet in 1994. On the right limit bench 120,000 square feet of bedrock were mined in 1993 and 135,000 square feet in 1994. Two Caterpillar bulldozers, one D9L and one D10L, were used to strip overburden, dig and push pay gravel, feed the dump box/wash plant, and remove tailings. In 1995, mining occurred along the right limit bench below the confluence with Little Blanche Creek. In 1996-1997, the Tatlows mined several cuts on Little Blanche Creek. In 1998-2002, four miners were employed, along with 2 camp personnel running a daily shift of 12 hours. Three huge pits were excavated, each averaging about 100 by 700 feet. Over the course of the past 4 years. The waste sections were hauled out by the Terex scrapers and stockpiled for use in road construction and for reclamation purposes. In the fall of 2000, the Little Blanche Creek mine area was put into temporary closure due to the rising price of fuel and the large amounts of material to be moved. In 2001, the remaining stockpiles were sluiced and some work was done on upper Quartz Creek. The rising costs of fuel and marginal returns on gold production caused this family to re-think their long term plans for the mine operation. Reclamation and restoration at the Little Blanche mine site was nearly completed this year. The tatlows did not return until the 2003 season; Kevin and his son, Gary, stripped black muck on Upper Quartz Creek, and sluiced thawed materials from 2001. The operation was moved to lower Quartz Creek in August.

### **Production**

| Year | Stripped | Sluiced            |
|------|----------|--------------------|
| 1994 | Unknown  | 350000 square feet |
| 1993 | Unknown  | 150000 square feet |
| 1992 | Unknown  | 80000 cubic yards  |
| 1991 | Unknown  | 50000 cubic yards  |

### **Equipment**

In 1991, one Cat D9L dozer with U-blade and ripper was used for stripping and pushing pay gravel into the wash plant. Water monitors were used to strip frozen overburden. A dump box 14 feet wide by 20 feet long washed by a water monitor fed a center sluice run 12 inches wide by 20 feet long, and two side runs 4 feet wide and 20 feet long. Up to 180 loose yards per hour were processed using 6000 igpm of water, supplied by a 10 by 12 inch Morris pump, powered by a Cat 3408 diesel. Water was recycled in old mining cuts on Upper Quartz Creek. Waste settled in large settling ponds in old mining cuts in the Indian River Valley.

In 1993, two Caterpillar bulldozers, one D9L and one D10L, were used to strip overburden, dig and push pay gravel, feed the dump box/wash plant, and remove tailings. One Caterpillar 330L excavator was used to feed the shaker/wash plant and dig drains. Two wash plants were operated. A wash plant on upper Quartz Creek had a dump box 12 feet wide by 16 feet long, which was washed with a monitor nozzle and spray bar into three sluice runs 4 feet wide by 16 feet long. The middle run had angle iron riffles for the first eight feet, then eight feet of 0.5-inch punch plate over expanded metal riffles. Both side runs had expanded metal riffles for their full length. About 200 cubic yards per hour were processed using 2100 igpm of water supplied by a 12 by 12 inch Morris pump, powered by a Caterpillar 3408 diesel engine. The wash plant on the right limit bench below Little Blanche Creek had a hopper 8 feet by 12 feet, feeding a shaker screen deck 6 feet wide by 20 feet long, which classified to 3/4 inch and 1/2 inch. Three sluice runs with expanded metal riffles followed it. Water was recycled from an old

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mining cut approximately 250 feet wide by 600 feet long, instream in upper Quartz Creek at the mouth of Mack Fork. Water was also pumped from an instream reservoir in Little Blanche Creek, and settled in an out-of-stream pond approximately 350 feet wide by 750 feet long in the Quartz Creek Valley.

In 1995, two Caterpillar bulldozers, one D9L and one D10L, were used for stripping overburden, pushing up pay gravel and spreading tailings. A Caterpillar 330L excavator was used to feed the wash plant and to dig drains. An 8 by 12 foot hopper with a spray nozzle fed a shaker screen deck 6 feet wide by 20 feet long which classified to 3/4 inch and 1/2 inch followed by 3 sluice runs with expanded metal riffles. A Morris 12 inch pump supplied about 2000 igpm of water, which was used to process approximately 200 cubic yards per hour. Water was pumped from a reservoir at the mouth of Little Blanche Creek and was settled in large ponds downstream on Quartz Creek with final settling in old mining cuts in the Indian River valley at the mouth of Quartz Creek.

In 1998, one D9L Caterpillar bulldozer equipped with a U blade and ripper continued to be used to strip the mine area while material was hauled out by 3 Terex S-24b scrapers with a 24 cubic yard capacity. A Hitachi EX300 excavator fed the sluice plant and performed other services such as ditch digging and reclamation.. A 12 by 10 inch Morris pump powered by a Caterpillar 3408 diesel engine capable of 4500 igpm processed approximately 200 cubic yards per hour. The sluice plant was comprised of a 6 by 20 foot double decker screen deck to which 4 sluice runs approximately 4 feet wide by 16 feet long were attached. This operation was conducted out of stream with an 80 per cent recycle system. Water for the camp and sluicing purposes was collected in a reservoir constructed at the mouth of Canyon Creek. Settling ponds consisted of a series of old mine cuts and dredge ponds that were situated at the mouth of Quartz Creek. At the cessation of mining on Little Blanche Creek, a stable channel was restored. Much of the equipment and other mine were put up for sale.

### **Environmental Work**

#### **Year Reclamation Work**

|      |   |
|------|---|
| 2002 | Approximately 15 hours of reclamation work on the right limit of Little Blanche was done this year.                             |
| 1992 | Waste water from the monitoring of overburden was settled in large settling ponds in old mining cuts in the Indian River Valley |

### **Landforms**

| <b>Landform</b>  | <b>Comments</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Alluvial Terrace |                 |
| Canyon           |                 |

### **Surficial Geology**

In 1991, frozen black muck overburden was very deep on upper Quartz Creek, and was up to 40 feet deep on Mack Fork, with the bottom gravel layer up to 5 feet deep. In 1993, Upper Quartz Creek above Mack Fork had 40 feet of frozen black muck overburden on top of six feet of gravel. All gravel plus three feet of bedrock were sluiced. The right limit bench of Quartz Creek, below Little Blanche Creek, had 3 to 5 feet of organic overburden on top of 50 feet of coarse, reddish gravels, covering 12 feet of white channel gravel. The bottom 12 feet of white channel gravel plus up to 3 feet of bedrock was sluiced. In 1995, the right limit bench of Quartz Creek had about 5 feet of frozen overburden on top of up to 50 feet of coarse reddish gravel with another 15 feet of White Channel gravel under that. All of the White Channel gravel plus about 3 feet of bedrock were sluiced. In the valley bottom of Little Blanche Creek there were about 12 feet of black muck on top of mixed brown and gray gravel layers up to 15 feet deep. In 1998, mining was focussed on the right limit bench of Little Blanche Creek with some strip thawing and testing being done upstream of camp on Quartz Creek. The ground at Little Blanche was composed of 12 feet of frozen black muck and 40 to 50 feet of gravels. The gold was found in the last 10 feet of this section and the first 4 or 5 feet of the unconsolidated bedrock.

An exposure in a mining pit consists of 15m of White Channel overlain by 5m of Yellow Gravel. The gravel represents a floodplain deposit of paleo-Quartz Creek.

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**Map Sheet(s): 115011**

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### **Bedrock Geology**

Bedrock was partially decomposed, fractured and unconsolidated.

### **Gold Comments**

Both fine and coarse gold was found in 1991, with a fineness of 740-790. In 1993, gold from upper Quartz Creek, above Mack Fork, was round and chunky, with fineness about 750. Gold from the right limit bench deposit was coarse and chunky, with fineness about 780. In 1995, gold from the White Channel deposit was coarse and chunky with fineness around 780. During 1998, the gold recovered was brightly coloured and chunky with a fineness of ranging between 670 and 750. Mesh sizes were 15 per cent at +10, 70 percent from -10 to +60 and the remaining 15 percent at -60 mesh.

Gold recovered from the gravel is coarse and chunky and has a fineness of 780.

### **References**

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### **Pictures**

**Title:** Tatlow Placer's monitor on Upper Quartz Creek

**Notes:**



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**Map Sheet(s): 115014**

**Title:** Tatlow Placers open pit on Little Blanch Creek

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**Notes:**

